

ICED Awards Program 2015

Program Background

The Committee administers an awards program to honor individuals and organizations that have promoted independence and civil rights for people with disabilities. An awards ceremony is held annually to recognize the award winners. Award categories include Employee, Agency, Business/Nonprofit organization, the Media, Advocate, and Legislator.

Nominations can be made by anyone and are due by April 15, 2015. Completed forms can be sent to:

Susan Allen, Department of Human Rights
222 S. College, Room 101
Springfield, IL 62704

OR emailed to Susan.Allen, **OR** faxed to **Susan Allen** at (217) 785-5106.

Award Categories

Employee Nomination Form

Award criteria include: An employee who is employed by an agency, board, or commission under the jurisdiction of the Governor and is:

- A State of Illinois Employee with a Disability who is employed by an agency, board or commission under the jurisdiction of the Governor.
- An enthusiastic employee who exhibits a creative approach to work that reflects initiative and goes beyond job requirements.
- An employee who displays good human relations skill, works well with others and is respectful of co-workers.
- An employee who exhibits sensitivity to disability issues and promotes disability awareness and self-respect.
- An employee with good job performance.
- An employee who has made outstanding achievements in improving the status of people with disabilities.

Agency Nomination Form

- Agencies are evaluated on a variety of factors, including: innovative programs to assist employees with disabilities; percentage of employees with disabilities; percentage of promotions involving employees with disabilities; agency's experience in regards to provision of accommodation; and training efforts.
- Information provided should be based on FY14 accomplishments.
- Agencies will compete within the following three categories:

Small -- under 300 employees;
Medium -- 301 to 1000 employees; and
Large -- over 1000 employees.

- Agencies that are statutory members of the Committee, including the Departments of Human Rights, Human Services, Central Management Services, Veterans Affairs, and the Civil Service Commission, are not eligible to participate in this category.

Business/Nonprofit Nomination Form

Awards program criteria for an Illinois Business or Non-Profit organization include: An Illinois business or non-profit organization that has taken efforts in FY14 (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014) to:

- Enhance the independence of people with disabilities, or
- Contribute to improved access to facilities or programs in the state, or
- Address attitudinal barriers facing people with disabilities.
- Information provided should be based on FY14 (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014) accomplishments.

Media Nomination Form

Awards criteria include: stories that accurately depict the lives of people with disabilities, those that illustrate the barriers faced by this group, or those that promote the independence of this group. Media prepared during 2014 is eligible for this award.

Advocate Nomination Form

A State employee who has worked to advance the rights, opportunities or independence of people with disabilities either in 2014 or over his/her state career. Individuals who serve on ICED are not eligible for this award.

Legislator Nomination Form

A State legislator who has worked to advance the rights, opportunities or independence of people with disabilities through legislation. Efforts can include lifetime legislative work.